

ABSTRACT

Described is the characterization and the use of strong viral promoters for expressing genes, in particular in plants. The invention is based on the surprising finding that specific DNA fragments derived from CFDV DNA (coconut foliar decay virus DNA), which encompass the stem-loop structure, but not the translation start(s) for the open reading frames ORF1 and/or ORF2, have a distinctly higher promoter activity in plants than promoters derived from CFDV DNA which do not correspond to these stipulations.

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